EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PROTECTING WILDLIFE

DECEMBER 2012

In recognition of Wildlife Conservation Day on December 4, 2012, the Lincoln Resource Center is pleased to provide a range of web resources on the United States' commitment to protecting the earth's wildlife. This issue highlights U.S. partnerships with organizations around the world to combat wildlife trafficking, including the Wildlife Conservation Society of Johor.







UPCOMING WEBCHATS

Join webchats with Animal Planet TV Personality Jeff Corwin on The Importance of Protecting Wildlife on December 3 and 4, 2012. During the webchats, Jeff Corwin will share personal stories and experiences from his travels.

SPECIAL MESSAGES

<u>Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's Remarks at the Partnership Meeting on</u>
Wildlife Trafficking



Wildlife trafficking is a global issue involving national security, public health and economic security, and requires a concerted global response, says Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

At the Partnership Meeting on Wildlife Trafficking held at the State Department on November 8, she called on private and government organizations everywhere to join the Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking, a global

partnership for sharing information on poachers and illicit traders. The networks provided by the coalition, she said, are critical to strengthening protection efforts and enhancing cooperation among key countries. <u>Full text of the remarks</u>. <u>Video.</u>

Robert D. Hormats, Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment, Remarks at the Partnership Meeting on Wildlife Trafficking

"We have always considered wildlife trafficking a critical conservation issue, and have been leaders in both global and national efforts to conserve wildlife.

But new transnational criminal groups – well-funded criminal syndicates – are increasingly involved in the illicit trade. And the poachers have vastly increased weaponry. Large-scale wildlife trafficking has come to threaten the security, stability, and rule of law in countries across Africa and parts of Asia. And it also affects the security and stability of many nations, with a direct impact on the foreign policy interests of the United States. All of these realities underlie the urgency of today's meeting." Full text of the remarks.

COMBATTING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS

<u>United States, Johor Team up to Combat Wildlife Trafficking</u> Press Release, U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur, November 2012

The United States Government to supports international efforts to combat wildlife trafficking and to assist wildlife conservation efforts. Over the past five years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has provided more than USD 800,000 to Malaysian organizations to support wildlife conservation efforts. This includes more than US\$150,000 to the Wildlife Conservation Society for tiger conservation work in Johor.

Money, Ignorance Further Threaten Endangered Species IIP Digital. November 2012.

Even though medical science has proven that rhino horn does not cure cancer, there are plenty of people with money who believe it does and are willing to pay up to \$30,000 to get it. The result: An increase in the slaughter of this endangered animal and an increasingly sophisticated breed of poacher.

<u>Virginia Tech Draws Foreign Students to Conservation Program</u> IIP Digital. November 2012.

Twenty-seven percent of the graduate students in the renowned fish and wildlife conservation program at Virginia Tech University come from outside the United States. The international graduate students work with American students at the Virginia Tech (VT) College of Natural Resources and Environment, specifically in its Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, one of the oldest and most highly regarded programs of its kind in the United States.

Combating Wildlife Trafficking: Respect and Protect IIP Digital. October 2012.

Illicit trade in threatened and endangered species is a multibillion-dollar business, and the increasingly intense demand for products derived from Africa's and South Asia's iconic land animals — elephants, rhinoceroses and tigers — threatens peace and

security in both regions.

New App Connects Global Community of Wildlife Watchers IIP Digital. October 2012.

With smart phones in hand, visitors to national wildlife refuges in the U.S. East Coast's Chesapeake Bay region now can photograph and share their sightings with a worldwide community of wildlife watchers. The free National Wildlife Refuges Chesapeake Bay app is a new tool for exploring the outdoors and is available for download from the iTunes App Store.

<u>Aiming for More Tigers for Next "Year of the Tiger"</u> IIP Digital. October 2012.

Wildlife conservation is a "fundamental value" to many Americans, says Robert Hormats, U.S. undersecretary of state for economic growth, energy and the environment. He notes that in the past 14 years, the U.S. Congress has given bipartisan support in funding more than \$11 million for wild tiger conservation.

<u>Law Enforcement Learns New Ways to Outwit Wildlife Traffickers</u> IIP Digital. October 2012.

The International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) is helping law enforcement to fight illegal wildlife trade. More than 30 law enforcement officers from Asia, Africa and the United States recently gathered at the ILEA in Bangkok to share new information and technology for better cross-border investigations into poaching gangs, wildlife traffickers and black-market dealers.

FACT SHEETS

State Dept. on U.S. Efforts to Combat Wildlife Trafficking

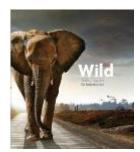
U.S. Efforts to Regulate Tiger Trade

U.S. Efforts to Control illegal Elephant Ivory Trade and Internal Markets



More fact sheets on conservation efforts from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services: http://www.fws.gov/international/publications-and-media/fact-sheets.html

e-JOURNAL USA



Go Wild! Coming Together for Conservation

Every year, thousands of animal species become extinct. Animals that once roamed the Earth in abundance are permanently disappearing from our planet at a heart-stopping pace. Scientists estimate that the current rate of extinction is 1,000 times greater than it would normally be because of one factor. What has caused this rapid rise in extinctions? The alarmingly simple answer: humans. This e-Journal examines the ways in which the human beings could be part of the solution and not the problem.

RELATED RESOURCES

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

World Wildlife Fund

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

Wildlife Conservation Society

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